

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
8110 GATEHOUSE ROAD
SUITE 500 EAST
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042-1210
USA

(703) 205-8000

FAX: (703) 205-8050
(703) 698-8590 (G IV)

e-mail: mailroom@bskb.com
web: http://www.bskb.com

CALIFORNIA OFFICE
COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA

SCOTT L. LOWE
PAUL C. LEWIS
RICHARD J. GALLAGHER
JAYNE M. SAYDAH*
MARYANNE ARMSTRONG, PH.D.
KECIA J. REYNOLDS
ROBERT L. SCOTT, II
KALPANA REDDY
MARK E. OLDS
ESTHER H. CHONG
CATHERINE M. VOISINET*
EUGENE T. PEREZ

REG. PATENT AGENTS:
FREDERICK R. HANDREN
MAKI HATSUMI
CRAIG A. McROBBIE
GARTH M. DAHLEN, PH.D.
ROBERT E. GOOZNER, PH.D.
KRISTI L. RUPERT, PH.D.
MATTHEW T. SHANLEY
SUSAN W. GORMAN, PH.D.
DAVID J. CHO
ROBERT W. DOWNS

TERRELL C. BIRCH
RAYMOND C. STEWART
JOSEPH A. KOLASCH
JAMES M. SLATTERY
BERNARD L. SWEENEY*
MICHAEL K. MUTTER
CHARLES GORENSTEIN
GERALD M. MURPHY, JR.
LEONARD R. SVENSSON
ANDREW D. MEIKLE
HAROLD S. WEINER
JOE MCKINNEY MUNCY
ROBERT J. KENNEY
JOHN W. BAILEY
MARK J. NUELLE, PH.D.
JAMES T. ELLER, JR.
D. RICHARD ANDERSON

OF COUNSEL:
HERBERT M. BIRCH (1905-1996)
ELLIOT A. GOLDBERG*
WILLIAM L. GATES*
EDWARD H. VALANCE
RUPERT J. BRADY (RET.)*
F. PRINCE BUTLER
FRED S. WHISENHUNT
JAMES W. HELLWEGE

*ADMITTED TO A BAR OTHER THAN VA.

Date: December 4, 2001

Docket No.: 1131-0459P

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b), is a Continuation application of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/03612 filed on June 2, 2000. The present application is filed on behalf of the inventor(s) according to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.41(c).

Inventors: NAKANISHI, Yukio; OTA, Akinori; KAN, Katsuhiko;
SHIMONO, Naohiko; KAWAI, Kiyotaka;
MIYAKOSHI, Yoshisato; NARITA, Hiroaki;
IIJIMA, Toshiki; HAGIWARA, Kouichi

For: SHEET TOBACCO, AND PROCESS AND SYSTEM FOR MANUFACTURING
THE SAME

Enclosed are:

- ☒ A specification consisting of Twenty-three (23) pages
- ☒ Eleven (11) sheet(s) of formal drawings
- ☐ An assignment of the invention
- ☐ Certified copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement w/PTO-1449 and reference(s)

- ☒ Executed Declaration in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.64 will follow
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.
- ☒ Information Sheet
- ☒ Preliminary Amendment
- ☒ Priority of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/03612 filed on June 2, 2000 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120.
- ☒ Amend the specification by inserting before the first line thereof the following:

a
1000159-120401
104021-550001

--This application is a Continuation of copending PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/03612 filed on June 2, 2000, which was published in English and which designated the United States and on which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.--

- ☒ Priority of Application No. 11-157934 filed in Japan on June 4, 1999 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119.
- ☐ Other:

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

			LARGE ENTITY	SMALL ENTITY
BASIC FEE			\$740.00	\$370.00
	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE FEE	RATE FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	21- 20 =	1	X 18 = 18.00	x 9 = \$0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3- 3 =	0	x 84 = \$0.00	x 42 = \$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED			+ \$280.00	+ \$140.00
TOTAL			\$758.00	\$0.00

- ☒ A check in the amount of \$758.00 to cover the filing fee and recording fee (if applicable) is enclosed.

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. A triplicate copy of this transmittal form is enclosed.

☒ Please send correspondence to:

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP or Customer No. 2292
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
Telephone: (703) 205-8000

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 

James M. Slattery, #28,380

JMS/nv
1131-0459P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

1000159 120401
FO4021 5510001

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I N F O R M A T I O N S H E E T

Applicant: NAKANISHI, Yukio
 OTA, Akinori
 KAN, Katsuhiko
 SHIMONO, Naohiko
 KAWAI, Kiyotaka
 MIYAKOSHI, Yoshisato
 NARITA, Hiroaki
 IIJIMA, Toshiki
 HAGIWARA, Kouichi

Application No.:

Filed: December 4, 2001

For: SHEET TOBACCO, AND PROCESS AND SYSTEM FOR MANUFACTURING THE
 SAME

Priority Claimed Under 35 U.S.C. 119 and/or 120:

COUNTRY	DATE	NUMBER
JAPAN	06/04/99	11-157934
PCT	06/02/00	PCT/JP00/03612

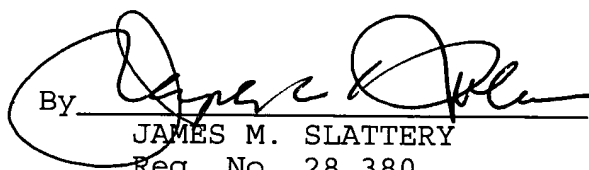
Send Correspondence to: BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
 P. O. Box 747
 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
 (703) 205-8000

The above information is submitted to advise the USPTO of all relevant facts in connection with the present application. A timely executed Declaration in accordance with 37 CFR 1.64 will follow.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


 JAMES M. SLATTERY

Reg. No. 28,380

P. O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

/nv

(703) 205-8000

10000159-120401